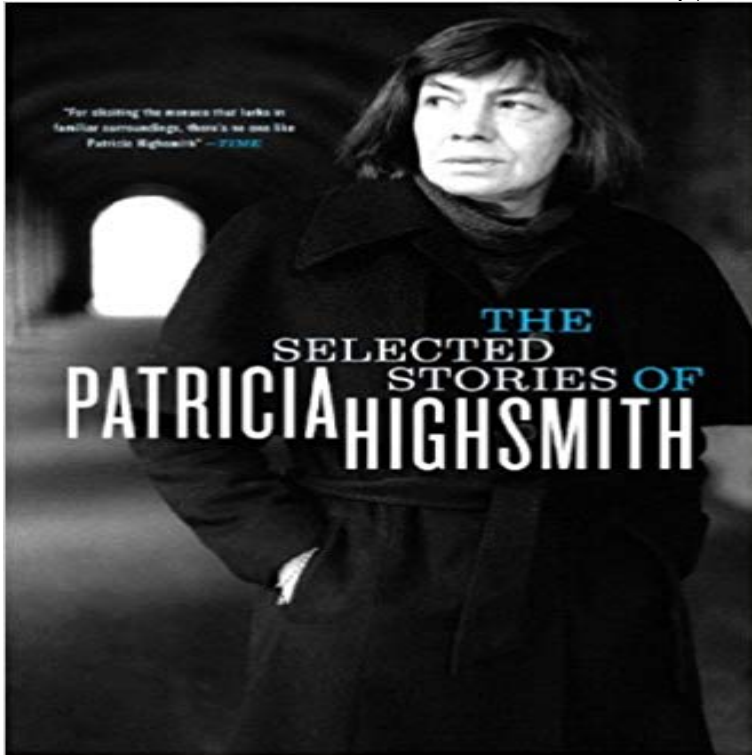


## The Selected Stories of Patricia Highsmith



The Selected Stories of Patricia Highsmith presents five of Highsmith's classic short story collections in a single masterful volume. Compelling, twisted, and fiercely intelligent, this landmark collection showcases Highsmith's mastery of the short story form. In a cruel twist of irony, Texas-born Patricia Highsmith (1921-1995) is being recognized only after her death for her inestimable genius in her native land. With the savage humor of Waugh and the macabre sensibility of Poe, she brought a distinctly contemporary acuteness to her prolific body of noir fiction. Including over 60 short stories written throughout her career, collected together for the first time, *The Selected Stories* reveals the stunning versatility and terrifying power of Highsmith's work. These stories highlight the remarkable range of Highsmith's powers: her unique ability to quickly, almost imperceptibly, draw out the mystery and strangeness of her subject, which appears achingly ordinary to our naked eye. Whether writing about jaded wives or household pets, Highsmith continually upsets our expectations and presents a world frighteningly familiar to our own, where danger lurks around every turn. Stories from *The Animal-Lovers Book of Beastly Murders* portray, with incisive humor, the murderously competitive desires of our most trusted companions. In this viciously satirical reprise of Kafka, cats, dogs, and cockroaches are no longer necessary aspects of a happy home but actually have the power to destroy it. In the short sketches that make up *The Little Tales of Misogyny*, Highsmith rediscovers predictable female characters: *The Dancer*, *The Female Novelist*, *The Prude* and, through scathing humor, invests them with uniquely destructive powers. As a writer, Highsmith was all too well aware of the stolid patriarchal conventions that ruled her day; her publisher rejected her second book

out of hand because of its homosexual content. She is not a polemicist, but, as stories like Oona the Jolly Cave Woman and The Mobile Bed-Object reveal, her bizarre, haunting fiction continually betrays the inadequacy of our conventional understanding of female character. Highsmith eventually moved away from these coolly satiric, darkly comic exercises, and in her later collections, *The Black House*, *Slowly, Slowly in the Wind*, and *Mermaids on the Golf Course*, she uses the warm familiarities of middle-class life the manicured lawns, the cozy uptown apartments, the local pubs as the backbone for her chilling portrayals. *The Black House*, for instance, explores the small-town male camaraderie and the destructive secret it masks: in this world, the fact that everyone knows your name is more likely a curse than a blessing. In the title story of the final collection presented here, *Mermaids on a Golf-Course*, a mans extraordinary brush with death endows his everyday desires with fantastically devastating consequences. In her later work, Highsmith adds a dimension of penetrating psychological insight, evoked most vividly in stories like *A Curious Suicide* and *The Stuff of Madness*, where the precarious line between fantasy and reality is blurred and we experience the terrifying possibility of slipping between them. Great writers view the world askew, and in their art they reflect our world back to us, slightly distorted. *The Selected Stories* reveals Highsmiths deft and exacting style, her incisive satirical intelligence, and her faultless eye for depicting the inner tremblings of human character. Her world remains all the more frightening because we recognize it as our own.

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ISBN: 9780393327724, Fremdsprachige Bucher - Anthologien. **The Selected Stories of Patricia Highsmith** Now, five of her classic short story collections are combined in a single volume, The Selected Stories of Patricia Highsmith, with a foreword by Graham Greene. **The Selected Stories of Patricia Highsmith: : Patricia** The Selected Stories of Patricia Paperback. From the late mistress of suspense and noir fiction comes a chilling anthology of short fiction, featuring works from **The Selected Stories of Patricia Highsmith - Google Books** The Selected Stories of Patricia Highsmith presents five of Highsmiths classic short story collections in a single masterful volume. Compelling **the selected stories of patricia highsmith - Publishers Weekly** In the case of Patricia Highsmith, who died in 1995, credit Anthony Minghella's recent film version of The Talented Mr. Ripley, based on the first